

EPA Region 7 recently received the isolation barrier alternatives report from the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), and has begun to review its contents. In keeping with our August 13, 2014, letter to the Missouri Attorney General, EPA has provided copies of the report to the Missouri Attorney General, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the St. Louis Airport Authority for their review and evaluation. Each partner plays an important role in this effort given the technical complexities of the construction project and the public safety concerns related to bird strikes. In partnership with these organizations, EPA is working diligently to develop a solution to address concerns about the subsurface smoldering event (SSE) coming into contact with the radiologically impacted material (RIM).

EPA Region 7 appreciates and supports the work of the MDNR and the State of Missouri, through its legal orders, in directing Republic Services to monitor and contain the SSE in the Bridgeton Landfill portion of the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site. The additional temperature data and corrective action assessment recently required by the MDNR will support both their efforts to monitor the SSE, as well as EPA and USACE efforts to evaluate barrier alternatives. EPA is in regular communication with MDNR about their efforts to closely monitor the SSE.

EPA remains committed to the protection of public health. It is important to note that currently available scientific data indicates there are no off-site exposures to contaminants from the West Lake Landfill Site.